

AGENDA	DIALOGUE	ACTION ITEMS
I. Chair Kim Miske called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.		
a. Roll Call	<p><u>Commission Members Present:</u> Chair Kim Miske, Vice Chair Karin Olsen Billings, Nancy Matheson, Jackie Girard, Doug Braun, Robert Nystuen, Chantel Schieffer, Jim Corson, Scott Smith, Jack Chambers</p> <p><u>Commission Members Excused:</u> David Van Son, Adam Vauthier</p> <p><u>Commission Member Resigned:</u> James Steele</p> <p><u>Guests and Staff Present:</u> OCS- Tony Dean, Jim Auer, Julia Gustafson, Katie Gallagher, Janet Harper, CNCS - Amy Busch, <i>Justice for Montanans Project</i> – Brittany Waiss, <i>Montana Conservation Corps</i>- Lee Galt, <i>Montana State Parks AmeriCorps</i> –Katie McKeown, <i>Prevention Resource Center</i> – Abby Zent, <i>Service Nation</i> – Heather Margolis, <i>Governor's Office</i> - Ali Bovingdon, Kevin O'Brien, Dan Ritter</p>	
b. Approval of 2/27/13	Commissioner Corson moved to approve the minutes, Commissioner Braun seconded, the motion carried and the minutes were approved.	<i>February 27, 2013 Minutes approved.</i>
c. Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair Miske welcomed the governor's staff and Dan Ritter, who was appointed by Governor Bullock to serve as Executive Director of OCS. Ali Bovingdon and Kevin O'Brien, Governor Bullock's Deputy Chiefs of Staff, expressed thanks for the patience with the appointment process and noted that the Governor's Office is impressed by the Commissions commitment to service. The Governor's Office looks forward to more engagement with the OCS. Dan Ritter was introduced as the 	

	<p>new Executive Director. Dan Ritter will begin as Executive Director on Monday, June 24, 2013.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dan Ritter noted that he is excited to act as a liaison between the OCS and the Governor's Office and expand the role of the Office and Commission. • Chair Miske thanked the Grant Review Workgroup for their time and commitment during the 2013 Formula grant review. 	
II. Governor's Office of Community Service Updates		
a. Legislative and Financial Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tony Dean reported SB 410 which authorized general fund to the Department of Labor among other agencies was approved within the final moments of the 2013 Legislative Session. The funding within this bill is biennial meaning that it is only available for the next two state fiscal years. OCS received an additional \$50,000 per year. 	
b. AmeriCorps in Indian Country	<p>Julia Gustafson provided an update on AmeriCorps in Indian Country.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is the fourth year that the OCS compiled this information and distributed to Commissioners. • A handout was provided that highlighted the work and stories of AmeriCorps programs and members in Indian Country. • Julia noted that all programs are actively trying to build relationships with tribal government and organizations as well as recruit American Indian members. • Some of the challenges that programs when recruiting host sites in Indian Country include distance, communication styles, and the significant capacity required to successfully administer an AmeriCorps program. • 16 AmeriCorps program staff attended the 2012 State Tribal Relations Training. 	
c. National Service Accommodations Assessment	<p>Jim Auer referred to the handout regarding the National Service Accommodations Assessment which was used to assess the disability inclusion efforts of Montana national service programs:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The survey was anonymous and asked members to self-report disabilities. • The survey demonstrates that the programs are doing a good job creating opportunities for all to serve. • Looking only at programs running through the commission approximately 21% of members reported a disability. About on pace with previous years. 	
d. Communication Highlights	<p>Julia Gustafson provided an update on the many exciting spring highlights with public events featuring the power of service:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AmeriCorps Week was March 9-17 and included 21 events across the state highlighting the value of AmeriCorps • Mayor's Day was April 9 and 18 Montana Mayors joined 832 Mayors around the country for the first day of recognition. • Global Youth Service Day was April 26-28 and there were 17 projects across the state which engaged 828 youth in 1,824 hours of service that benefited and estimated 12,000 Montanans. Most of the projects were related to community gardens, park clean-ups, healthy eating or Earth Day events. • The Youth Serve Montana Scholarships were announced in May and were awarded to 84 students from 59 high schools. They will be attending 12 Montana Campus Compact Schools. Montana Campus Compact and the Student Assistance Foundation were thanked for their continuing support of the scholarships. • Senior Corps Week was in May and held in Billings and Tony Dean attended the Foster Grandparents event with Dr. Erwin Tan. • National Trails Day was in June and there were 17 events and get outdoors day. <p>Looking Ahead-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OCS will launch the ServeMontana and ReadyMontana award nominations this summer 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Volunteers of the Games will again be recognized. Twelve volunteers will be recognized at the Bobcat and Griz home game. Last year Karin, Bob, Jack and Chantel presented the certificates. Let Julia know if you are interested in participating. 	
e. Ready Montana Highlights	<p>Katie Gallagher provided an update on Ready Montana:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The OCS was recently awarded \$107,830 from Disaster and Emergency Services. This funding was added via an amendment to existing 2011 Citizen Corps Program funding. Wildfire Awareness Week was held from June 3-9, 2013 and was spearheaded by Keep Montana Green, FireSafe Montana, the Governor's Office of Community Service's Fire Ready Montana call-to-action, and the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. The week kicked off with Governor Bullock's first 2013 fire briefing and was followed by a press conference in the Capitol rotunda. Organizations across the state held events to promote prevention, mitigation, and preparedness. This year the OCS will continue conducting outreach at the Pioneer League games in Missoula, Billings, Great Falls, and Helena. Montana is participating in the 2013 Rocky Mountain ShakeOut, a statewide earthquake drill, on October 23, 2013. The ShakeOut is sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Southern California Earthquake Center. Current partners include Disaster and Emergency Service, Montana Tech Bureau of Land and Mines, and the American Red Cross of Montana. The OCS and partners will begin outreach once the website is launched by FEMA. 	
III. FY 2013 AmeriCorps State Formula Funding		
a. Competitive Funding Update	<p>Jim Auer provided the following competitive funding update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Montana Conservation Corps will receive competitive funding at their full request. Neither the Justice for Montanans Project nor The Boys and Girls Club in Havre was selected for funding in the competitive process. 	

b. Applicant Descriptions	Jim explained that since the Justice for Montanans Project would not be receiving competitive funds that the commission would be looking at scenario two presented by the grant review workgroup.	
c. Funding Recommendations	<p>Commissioner Olsen Billings thanked the applicants and staff for their work during the Formula Funding grant review process. She explained the goal of the review was to determine if they should continue to receive funding. The total funding requested was \$742,606 and total funds available are \$609,743. She referred to the handout which outlined the funding recommendations of the Grant Review Workgroup. Karin outlined scenario two which the commission would be voting on.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since the Justice for Montanans Project is not funded in Competitive all applicants will be funded at approximately their previous years request and a supplemental request for funding is submitted that would fund Justice for Montanans and Big Sky Watershed at their full requests. 	
d. Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Corson asked why no new programs applied for funding. Jim Auer explained there was some interest but they didn't have the capacity to run a federal grant. Jim Auer and Julia Gustafson are attending conferences in the fall to conduct outreach and share information about AmeriCorps opportunities. • Commissioner Corson asked if all four applicants were successful recruiting members. Jim Auer explained that the Justice for Montanans project is the only program that has yet to fill a position because they received supplemental funding late. • Heather Margolis asked how the supplemental request would be divided. Jim Auer explained it would be allocated based on the original program request. • Chair Miske noted that planning grants are a great way to 	

	promote new interest and foster new programs	
e. Action Item: Formula Funding Recommendations	<p>Commissioner Olsen Billings moved to accept Formula grant funding Scenario #2 with funding distributed as follows: Big Sky Watershed Corps - \$168,348 Montana State Parks AmeriCorps - \$143,500 Justice for Montanans Project - \$172,895 FoodCorps Montana - \$125,000 Voting for this proposal also approves staff to pursue a request for supplemental funds that would be distributed between Big Sky Watershed Corps and Justice for Montanans Project.</p> <p>Commissioner Scheiffer seconded the motion, the motion carried and the formula funding recommendation was approved.</p>	<p><i>Formula Funding Recommendation: Scenario 2</i> <u>Approved</u></p>
IV. Commissioner Reports and Updates		
a. Commissioners' recent volunteer engagements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Corson attended an orientation session for the Billings Metro VISTA project as well as the reception for Senior Corps Director, Dr. Erwin Tan. He noted that he monitors the local newspapers for news about AmeriCorps. • Commissioner Braun attended an AmeriCorps week luncheon in Billings. He added that he did not have any business cards to distribute at the event. • Commissioner Scheiffer participated in National Trails Day activities around Bozeman and is active on nonprofit boards, including the Women's Foundation of Montana and the Montana State University Association. • Chair Miske visited St. Labre Indian School in Ashland, Montana where she was able to connect with Jesuit Volunteer Corps members. • Commissioner Billings is on the Office of Public Instructions (OPI) planning committee to end childhood hunger and is working with the summer food service program. OPI is hosting the 21st Century Learning Centers Conference in August and Katie Gallagher is presenting at this conference on Ready Montana. She will attend the 2013 Points of Light Conference on Volunteering in Washington D.C. with Julia Gustafson. • Commissioner Girard noted that Bill Basl, Director of 	

	<p>AmeriCorps, and Dr. Erwin Tan, Director of Senior Corps, visited Montana recently. She provided the following Montana CNCS updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -There are 13 Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) programs that received continuation funding approval in April for FY 2013. Senior Companions and Foster Grandparent programs are currently in the process of receiving FY 2013 approval. -The Corporation released information on FY 2014 RSVP funding. \$14 million is available and there are two opportunities in Montana- Hill County (Havre) and Fallon and Carter (Baker). The applications are due September 10, 2013. Julia Gustafson will circulate the announcement to Commissioners. All current RSVP projects must participate in a competitive process in FY 2015. -22 VISTA summer associates will serve 70 days terms, ending in August. The goal of the summer associate program is to expand the reach and impact of existing VISTA projects. The members will focus on summer education loss and feed sites. -There are currently five VISTA projects in Montana. Four are submitting continuation proposals and the Prevention Resource Center (PRC) must compete for funding in February 2014. -VISTA projects are in the middle of their recruitment season. They have 65 member slots available. This has been one of the slowest recruitment seasons. -Tony Dean asked whether other states are having similar recruitment challenges. Commissioner Girard noted that other states are facing similar challenges. The type and location of the project also impacts the ability to successfully recruit members. A broken link on the website may have contributed to the recruitment challenges. Commissioner Matheson stated that AmeriCorps programs in Montana are appealing, noting that Food Corps had to turn down ~85 people for each open position. -The Pre-Service Orientation (PSO) for new VISTA members will be held July 17-19, 2013 and all members 	
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	<p>will be at their sites on July 20, 2013. The swearing in ceremony will be held at 1:00pm in Helena.</p> <p>The first Mayors Day of Service and the office is looking ahead to the 9/11 Day of Service. Action for Eastern Montana is leading the way for a 9/11 Day of Service gardening and gleaning project, which may be used as a model throughout the state to bring locally grown and gleaned food to food banks. Commissioner Matheson noted that the Department of Agriculture may be able to help projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Smith volunteered with Bike Walk Helena's bicycle and pedestrian count in May. • Commissioner Chambers attended the Mayor's Day of Recognition in Missoula and the Missoula Chamber of Commerce's annual banquet where he received the George Award. • Commissioner Nystuen shared information about Glacier Bank's project Homeless Connect. About 12-14 Glacier Bank employees and community stakeholders are working together to collect information about the homeless population in the Flathead Valley and share information about available services. The bank is also sponsoring the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. Commissioner Nystuen is continuing his work with the Samaritan House, Glacier National Park Conservancy Group, the Flathead Valley Community College as the Board Chair. 	
V. New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim Corson inquired about the date(s) for the potential commissioner retreat. Julia Gustafson noted that the office was waiting on the appointment of the Executive Director and more information will be coming soon. 	
VI. Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lee Gault of the Montana Conservation Corps (MCC) shared that the program is currently at the height of their season with 26 crews in operation, including fuel reduction/mitigation, trail, and weeds crews, as well as wilderness interns and veteran's green corps. MCC is excited about their new Bridging Cultures Conservation Corps, which is a partnership with the United States Forest Service (USFS) to provide opportunities for American Indian students to receive relevant job and service experience. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Scheiffer asked Dan Ritter to share his community service background and his priorities for community service. Dan explained that he has been active with his association of realtors participating in activities to collect food for the food bank among other things. • Katie McKeown from Montana State Parks AmeriCorps shared that their program is in full swing with sixteen members serving. The program recently held all-member training at Canyon Ferry Lake. • Heather Margolis will send via email a Wall Street Journal article by Stanley Chrystal about national service. She also encouraged Commissioners to complete an 'I Stand for Service' plaque, which will be shared with Montana's senators. • Abby Zent from the Prevention Resource Center (PRC) shared that seven summer associates will be placed throughout the state. Members will be working at summer feeding sites and on summer reading projects PRC is currently recruiting an eighth member. PRC has filled 11 of 18 regular VISTA positions, with four members re-enrolling. Eight members are completing an end of service project and Abby Zent will record the presentation. 	
VII. Adjourn	The meeting adjourned at 3:00 P.M.	

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